UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JUAN PABLO CHAVEZ,

Plaintiff,

v.

SERGEANT WILLIAM FINNEY and OFFICER STEPHEN STREICHER,

Defendants.

No. 19-CV-4109 (RA)

ORDER

RONNIE ABRAMS, United States District Judge:

On September 5, 2024, the Court received, via email, a submission from Plaintiff labeled "Scan 09-05-24," along with three photo images. A copy of Plaintiff's submission is attached to this Order. The Court construes Plaintiff's motion as seeking to appear remotely for "the limited purposes of the 9/6 pretrial" conference.

Plaintiff's motion to appear remotely at the pretrial conference scheduled for September 6, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. is granted. All parties shall appear via Microsoft Teams. Members of the public may call into the conference at the following audio-only line: (646) 453-4442; Passcode: 932 330 604#. A video link will be sent to the parties prior to the conference.

The Court reminds Plaintiff, however, that he MUST ATTEND TRIAL IN-PERSON ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2024. To the extent Plaintiff contemplates filing a motion to appear remotely at trial, the Court will deny the motion.

It is within the district court's discretion to order a pro se plaintiff to appear in person to prosecute his case. *See Rodriguez v. Gusman*, 974 F.3d 108, 114 (2d Cir. 2020) (explaining that "[u]nder Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 43(a), [a] judge has discretion to allow live testimony by

video for good cause in compelling circumstances and with appropriate safeguards" or to deny remote appearance) (internal quotation marks omitted); *see also* Fed. R. Civ. P. 43(a). Where a plaintiff is pro se, his absence at trial "could . . . pose[] an insurmountable hurdle" to the prosecution of the case. *Rodriguez*, 974 F.3d at 114; *see also Brown v. Wright*, No. 05-cv-82, 2008 WL 346347, at *4 (N.D.N.Y. Feb. 6, 2008) (explaining that a plaintiff "proceeding pro se, must, of course, appear in person at trial both to present his claims and to testify concerning them"); *see also Kuar v. Mawn*, No. 08-cv-4401, 2012 WL 3808620, at *9 (E.D.N.Y. Sept. 4, 2012). Because, in Plaintiff's "absence, the trial cannot proceed," it would be "unreasonable and unfair to both defendants and the Court to refrain from dismissal if there exists no reasonable possibility that [the plaintiff] will appear in person for trial." *Brown*, 2008 WL 346347, at *4.

While the Court appreciates Plaintiff's pro se and IFP status, it notes that both the Pro Se Office of the Southern District of New York and the Court made efforts to find Plaintiff counsel on two occasions, which would have obviated the need for Plaintiff to appear in person. Plaintiff declined to formally retain the first counsel. Plaintiff terminated his relationship with the second counsel weeks before trial was to begin.

For the reasons stated above, **the Court warns Plaintiff**—as it has numerous times in the weeks leading up to the trial date—**that if he fails to appear for trial in person** at 40 Foley Square New York, NY 10007, in courtroom 1506 on September 9, 2024 at 9:45 a.m., **the case will be dismissed for failure to prosecute** under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b). Should Plaintiff fail to appear remotely via Microsoft Teams for the pretrial conference scheduled for September 6, 2024, the Court will likewise dismiss his case under Rule 41(b).

The Court will send a courtesy copy of this Order to Plaintiff via email. Additionally, the Clerk of Court is respectfully directed to mail a copy of this Order to Plaintiff.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 5, 2024

New York, New York

Hon. Ronnie Abrams

United States District Judge

2 United States District Court
3 for the Southern District
of New York

5 ifp plop plaintiff

4 Sgt. Finney; Stephen

8 Streicher; & the

9 RED CROSS possi.

0 defendants

19-civ-4109 (RA) MOTTON For Remote Appearance

Il what authority/ies does byour Honor have to '2 grant Plaintiff access to court remotely for 13 the limited purposes of the 9/6 pretrial?

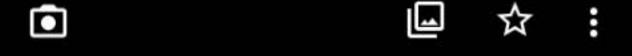
15 Exercise remote app. auth-16 by granting, 52.50 gravely 17, disabled, plaintiffs wish 12:40 pst vell sept. 4, 202 #skidrow (DRA)

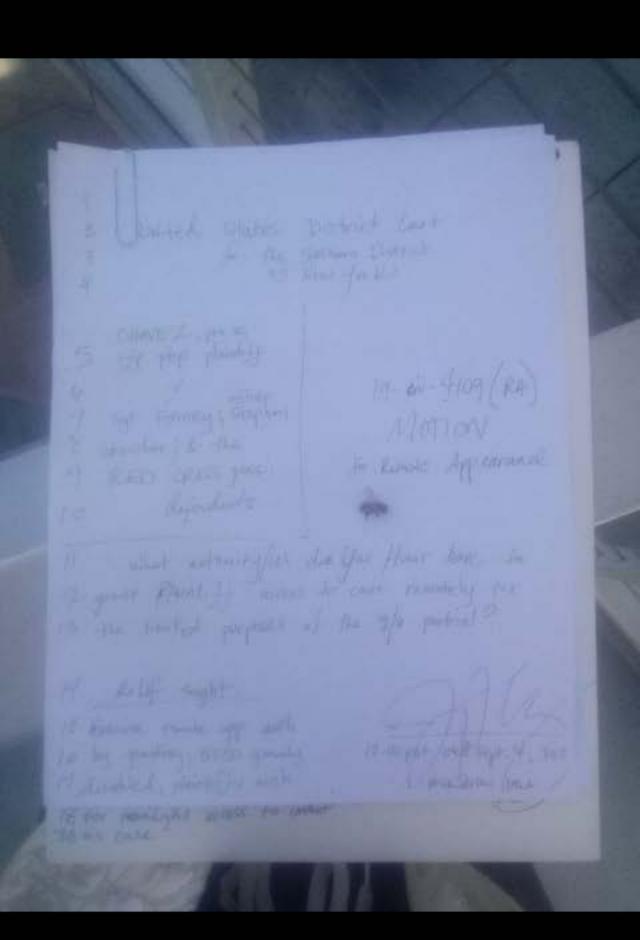
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE CIRCUIT

Form 4. Motion and Affidavit for Permission to Proceed in Forma Pauperis

Cir. Case Number(s) Case Name Affidavit in support of motion: I swear under penalty of perjury that I am financially unable to pay the docket and filing fees for my appeal. I believe my appeal has merit. I swear under penalty of perjury under United States laws that my answers on this form are true and correct. 28 U.S.C. § 1746; 18 U.S.C. § 1621. Signature Date | 0 The court may grant a motion to proceed in forma pauperis if you show that you cannot pay the filing fees and you have a non-frivolous legal issue on appeal. Please state your issues on appeal. (attach additional pages if necessary) app promises to expidite the trial / prose re-trialy raises controlling questions of law "ONLY" See Mcfadlen v. U. cs abuse of discretion/ rights of review and moves to















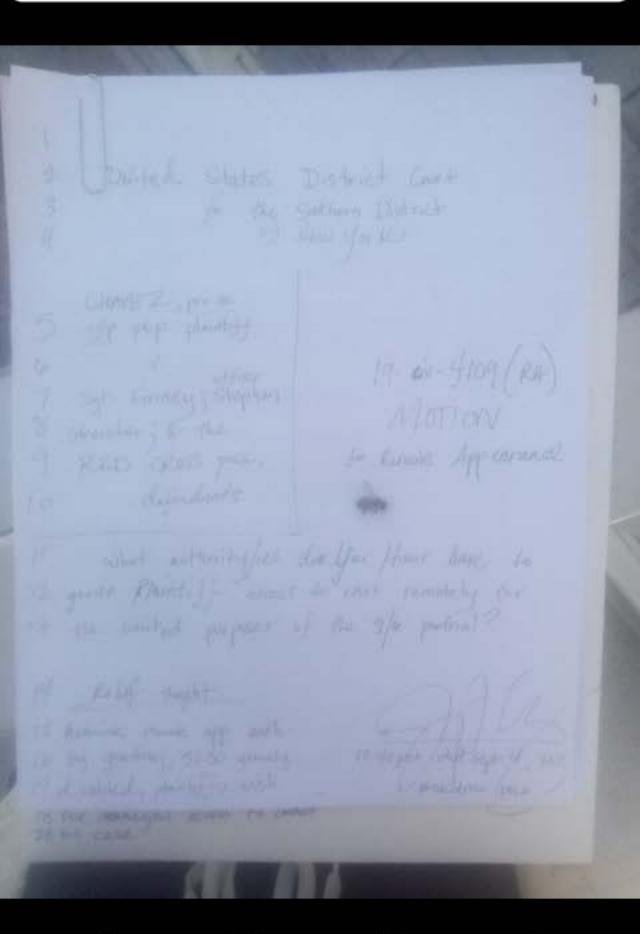


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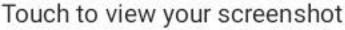
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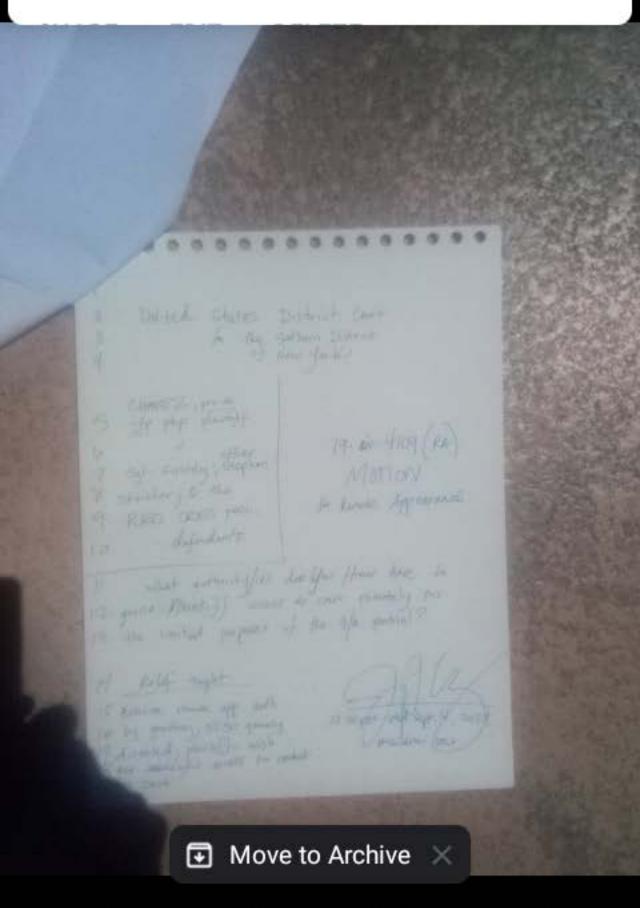




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